

Mirroring Project: **A Contextualized and Integrated Approach to Pronunciation Teaching**

Colleen M. Meyers, Center for Educational Innovation
meyer002@umn.edu

How?

Step 1: Identify major pronunciation challenge

http://mediamill.cla.umn.edu/mediamill/embed.php?subclip_id=3447&live=true&chrome=true

What pronunciation feature is getting in the way the most?

Step 2: Choose appropriate model <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c-sxBTNF2U8>

What model best illustrates the desired feature?

Step 3: Analyze the speaker. (View transcript on back.)

What is the speaker trying to accomplish in the segment? Persuade? Teach? Macro-Analysis: How is the speaker communicating his/her message effectively (pace, pausing, pitch, pronunciation, non-verbals? Micro-analysis: Transcribe 7 – 10 consecutive sentences. How's the speaker using those features to convey his/her message effectively?

Step 4: Mirror the original recording.

How can I best practice using the original video recording? How can I transfer what I'm learning from my model to my own speech? (Use read, look up, and say technique.)

Step 5: Practice and Reflection.

Record "cold" version. <http://mediamill.cla.umn.edu/mediamill/display/156112>

How well am I doing so far? What do I still need to improve?

Record "final" version. <http://mediamill.cla.umn.edu/mediamill/display/157042>

What have I improved? What do I still need to work on in the future? How?

Tips for Success?

1. Ted.com videos are good because they have transcripts. Students can replay each sentence/thought group over and over.
2. Help students choose an appropriate model, e.g., one student wanted to use Italian speaker with strong non-native rhythm and intonation patterns.
3. Require students to type transcript in large font (Times New Roman 22 or 24) —one thought group per line with focus word in bold.
4. Ask students to imagine a time when they experienced the emotion.
5. Ask Ss to view video with sound off to focus on non-verbals and emotions expressed.

(moves shoulders)

1. The night before I was heading for **Scotland**

(raises eyebrows)

2. I was invited to host the **final** of

(stands tall & bends over)

3. **China's** Got Talent show

(raises head)

4. in **Shanghai**

Yang Lan, "The Generation that's Remaking China."

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c-sxBTNF2U8>